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Huge

Spending Spree

on Missiles
Opposed

SCIENTIST HITS IDEA OF 'CZAR'

By Jack Wilson
(Of The Register's Washington Bureau)
WASHINGTON, D. C. —

Senators looking for a quick way to speed the U. S. guided-missile program got advice Monday to go slow in making any major changes.

A proposal to create a missile czar ran into important opposition.

Dr. Vannevar Bush, a scientific consultant to the government since before World War II, said he was a research czar himself during the war, but he didn't think that was the system to use in the missile field.

Cooperation Needed

It would create more problems in the relationships of the armed services and private industry than it would solve, he told the senate preparedness subcommittee which is investigating the guided missile program.

"At wartime, co-operation between industry and the military is automatic," he said. "It's not true in peace. I think it is the job of the secretary of defense. The management should not be turned over to someone in the president's office."

Senator Styles Bridges (Rep., N. H.), and John Stennis (Dem., Miss.) last week said they believed the situation called for a missile manager with the highest authority, presumably second only to that of the president.

Mr. Eisenhower has appointed a scientific consultant, Dr. James H. Doolittle, who seems to meet that



Dr. Edward Teller
Five Priorities

specification, but his authority hasn't been defined.

Both Bush and Dr. Edward Teller, a leading nuclear physicist, warned the subcommittee that it should be cautious about pushing for an intensive shakeup in the missile business.

To do so, said Teller, might mean loss of more time in the long-range missile race.

Bush said the situation called for a "thorough reorganization, with much simplification, so the men in the laboratory will know where he can go to get a clear-cut decision." But he also warned the senators not to rush into such a reorganization.

Bombers Stressed

Bush and Teller agreed on other points—first that the U. S. is definitely behind Russia in the development of big rockets, and second that we had better make sure our Strategic Air Command has enough punch to keep Russia convinced that it would be disastrous to attack us.

This would include providing bombers so they couldn't be



Dr. Vannevar Bush
"War Is Different"

knocked out by the first enemy rocket attack. As to spending, development, neither scientist had a quick answer.

They agreed that huge sums of additional money wouldn't accomplish the job. But both said they felt some relatively small amounts would be helpful.

Bush said the department of defense should be reorganized by creation of a central planning board, independent of the three armed services, to formulate over-all war plans. At present such planning is the job of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, composed of the commanding officers of each of the services.

It is unfair and unwise, Bush said, to expect a general or an admiral to head up his own service, and at the same time participate in war planning which may require subordination of his own branch.

He suggested using senior officers detached from

services, or recalled from retirement, to man the planning board, decisions of which would be subject only to white house approval.

Scientists Needed

That's a long-range program, though, he said, and could not have any effect on the immediate situation with respect to missiles. It could prevent future interservice rivalries, which have been blamed in part for the missile lag.

Bush and Teller emphasized another long range program, to encourage more young people to study science.

They said science could not flourish here unless it was supported by public understanding and approval.

"The word 'highbrow' is

very expressive," Teller said.

"It means that the public considers scientists as something apart, having no real close connection with the life of the people. A kid who is interested in science is ridiculed by his fellow students, and pretty soon he stops being interested."

Basic research, with no immediate practical value, must be encouraged, Teller went on.

"Suppose Russia learns how to control the weather," he said. "It might be controlled to Russia's advantage, and to our disadvantage."

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